

July 1, 2004

THOMAS E. VANCE  
22406 NE 25<sup>TH</sup> WAY  
SAMMAMISH WA 98074

Subject: Complaint Relating to the Glenn Anderson Campaign:  
PDC Case No. 04-708

Dear Mr. Vance:

The Public Disclosure Commission staff has completed its review of your complaint received June 28, 2004, alleging that the Citizens for Glenn Anderson sponsored political advertising that falsely claimed the endorsement of an organization in violation of RCW 42.17.

The PDC staff reviewed your allegations in light of the following statutes:

**RCW 42.17.530** prohibits a person from sponsoring with actual malice political advertising that contains a false claim of endorsement of an organization or entity. "Actual malice" means to act with knowledge of falsity or with reckless disregard as to truth or falsity. Any violation must be proven by clear and convincing evidence.

You alleged that the Glenn Anderson Campaign sponsored a political advertisement that falsely claimed or implied that Representative Anderson had received the endorsement of the Issaquah School District.

We found that:

- Glenn Edwin Anderson filed a Candidate Registration Statement (PDC Form C-1) on July 23, 2003, declaring his candidacy for re-election to State Representative for the 2004 election cycle from the 5<sup>th</sup> Legislative District.
- The Citizens for Glenn Anderson produced and distributed a political advertisement entitled "Issaquah School District, State Legislative Report, State Representative Glenn Anderson" in the Spring of 2004.

- The political advertisement provided general information about education and the Issaquah School District, details about changes to the WASL, information about past and future legislative action relating to educational issues, and Representative Anderson's priorities for education.
- The political advertisement concluded by stating "If you believe these are the right priorities for the Issaquah School District and the right priorities in Olympia then I'd like to ask for your vote for re-election to the state House of Representatives."

PDC staff's review of the political advertisement indicated that it did not contain any quotes or any other attribution from any Issaquah School District officials, School Board Members, or district employees. The political advertisement provided information about Glenn Anderson's positions on educational issues affecting the Issaquah School District. In PDC staff's opinion, none of the information contained in the political advertisement implied or claimed endorsement of Glenn Anderson by the school district, and no enforcement action is warranted.

After a careful review of the alleged violations and relevant facts, and with the concurrence of the Chair of the Public Disclosure Commission, I am dismissing the allegations listed above that you filed against the Glenn Anderson Campaign.

If you have questions, please contact Phil Stutzman, Director of Compliance, at (360) 664-8853 or toll free at 1-877-601-2828.

Sincerely,

Vicki Rippie  
Executive Director